Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONROV 05559 021425Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 $/068\,\mathrm{W}$

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R 021341Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0275 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI AMEMBASSY SEOUL AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CONFIDENTIAL MONROVIA 5559

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PEPR, LI

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S TRAVELS

1. DURING THE LIBERIAN INDEPENDENCE CELEBARATIONS, PRESIDENT TOLBERT, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, TOLD ME THAT HE PLANS HIS NEXT TRAVEL IN SEPTEMBER 1978, THIS TIME TO INDIA AND "PROBABLY" ON TO SOUTH KOREA. HE SAID THAT BOTH TRIPS WERE IN THE PLANNING STAGES BUT THAT THEY WERE MOVING ALONG "NICELY."

2. HE ADDED THAT HE HOPES TO GO TO NORTH KOREA NEXT YEAR PRIOR TO THE OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN MONROVIA. HE CONFIDED THAT HE HAD SEVERAL INVITATIONS WHICH HE WISHED TO ACCEPT THEREBY "DEMONSTRATING LIBERIA'S TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT" BEFORE HIS ASSUMPTION OF THE OAU CHAIRMANSHIP. TOLBERT CLEARLY INTENDS TO POLISH HIS IMAGE AS ELDER STATESMAN AND AGENT OF RECONCILIATION IN THE DAYS AHEAD. HE MADE NO MENTION OF THE OFT-POSTPONED CAIRO TRIP THOUGH I AM CERTAIN THAT HE WOULD WELCOME GETTING THAT VISIT BACK ON TRACK.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MONROV05559
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780317-1214 Format: TEL From: MONROVIA

Handling Restrictions: n/a Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808107/aaaadmcv.tel

Line Count: 47 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: b3088b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AF

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 26 apr 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1562210 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PRESIDENT TOLBERT\'S TRAVELS TAGS: PEPR, LI, (TOLBERT, WILLIAM R)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b3088b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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